

DIFFERENT LIFE EXPERIENCES

HEY BUDDY, CAN YOU SPARE A DOLLAR FOR A CUP OF HOT COFFEE?



GET A JOB SO
YOU CAN BUY
YOUR OWN
COFFEE!

## MEASURING SOCIAL CLASS

I FEEL MIDDLE CLASS, BUT BY OTHERS' STANDARDS WE'RE PRETTY WELL OFF!



- THE SUBJECTIVE APPROACH
  - SELF-PLACEMENT
    - ASKING PEOPLE WHERE THEY THINK THEY FIT INTO THE SOCIAL CLASS SYSTEM
      - MIDDLE-CLASS SEEMS TO BE A CATCH-ALL CATEGORY FOR MOST PEOPLE
- THE REPUTATIONAL MODEL
  - ASKING OTHERS WHO MAY BE
     WELL-INFORMED TO ACT AS JUDGE
    - BEST IN SMALL TOWN POPULATIONS WHERE LIFE DOESN'T CHANGE MUCH

#### THE OBJECTIVE APPROACH

- ASK RESPONDENTS SEVERAL QUESTIONS
   ABOUT THEMELVES AND THEN USE THE DATA
   FOR PLACEMENT PURPOSES
  - INDICATORS MAY INCLUDE INCOME, OCCUPATION, EDUCATION, WEALTH, OR THOSE ITEMS THAT MIGHT MAKE UP A PERSON'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS (S.E.S.)

# PROPERTY AND PRESTIGE

#### PROPERTY

- INCOME
  - THINK IN TERMS OF SPENDABLE CASH IN YOUR POCKET BOOK
    - TOP 10 PERCENT OF RUSSIAN EARN 30.5 PERCENT OF ALL FAMILY INCOME
- WEALTH
  - THINK IN TERMS OF NET ASSETS
  - TOP 10 PERCENT OF RUSSIANS ARE 17(!) TIMES WEALTHIER THAN THE BOTTOM 10 PERCENT!
- OCCUPATIONAL PRESTIGE
  - USED TO IDENTIFY MOST PERSONS' SOCIAL STATUS
    - HIGH STATUS ("CLEAN")JOBS TIED TO
      - HIGH INCOME
      - ADVANCED DEGREES IN EDUCATION
- GLOBALLY
  - THESE THINGS HOLD TRUE AROUND THE WORLD

WORKING A HOT DOG STAND DOESN'T GIVE ME MUCH PRESTIGE, INCOME, OR WEATLH. HOWEVER, THE SIDE BENEFITS ARE GOOD...



## **OUR CLASS SYSTEM**

**NOW FOR MY CHANCE TO BECOME A CAPITALIST!** 

- IN DISTRIBUTIONALIST TERMS
  - LEVELS OF INCOME, WEALTH, EDCUATION, OCCUPATIONAL PRESTIGE, AND POWER
- IN RELATIONAL TERMS
  - DIFFERENT CLASSES ENJOY DIFFERENT LEVELS OF REWARDS AND OCCUPY DISTINCT STRUCTURAL POSITIONS WITHIN A GIVEN SOCIAL ECONOMY
- KEY COMPONENTS
  - TWO KEY FACTORS
    - WHETHER OR NOT MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OWN THE MEANS OF CREATING SIGNIFICANT WEALTH
    - WHETHER THEY EXERCISE SUBTANTIAL **AUTHORITY OVER OTHERS**

5%

#### FOUR POSSIBLE COMBINATIONS

10%

20%

30%

• CAPTIALIST CLASS (YES TO BOTH)

Среднеобеспеченные 100 - 1000\$

Богатые

спыше 2000\$ Высокообеспеченные

1000 - 20005

 WORKERS (YES TO CREATING, NO TO **AUTHORITY**)

Малообеспеченные 60 - 1008

• MANAGERS (NO TO CREATING, YES TO **AUTHORITY**)

• PETITE BOURGEOISIE (NO TO BOTH)

Бедные ниже 60\$

35%

- LESS THAN ONE (0.4) PERCENT OF RUSSIANS FALL INTO THIS CLASS
  - CHIEF ECONOMIC RESOURCE
    - LOTS OF WEALTH, AND A FAIR AMOUNT OF ANNUAL INCOME
  - TWO DISTINCT GROUPS
    - OLD RICH
      - NOMENKLATURA
    - NEW RICH
      - PERSONS OCCUPYING TOP EXECUTIVE POSITIONS IN THE LARGEST CORPORATIONS
  - STRONGLY CONNECTED WITH POWER AND POLITICS



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### **UPPER MIDDLE CLASS**

- ABOUT 7 PERCENT OF RUSSIAN POPULATION
  - HIGH LEVEL PROFESSIONALS AND MANAGERS
    - EARNING BETWEEN 200,000 AND 450,000 rub MONTHLY

#### **VIRTUALLY ALL**

- HAVE ADVANCED DEGREES
- LIVE IN OWNED PROPERTY
- OFTEN PLAY ROLES IN CITY GOVERNMENT
- ATTENTIVE TO CIVIL ACTIVITIES

#### Средний класс—это:



30,9%

Кто не экономит на еде



26,2%

Те, кто себя к нему относит



21,9%

Те, кто позволяет себе дорогие покупки



21%

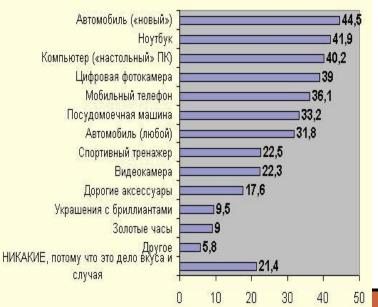
Среднего класса в России не существует

В опросе приняли участие 39 549 человек. Источник: RAMBLER

# SOWER-WOOLE

- ABOUT 15 PERCENT OF RUSSIANS IN CITIES (20 PERCENT AVERAGE)
  - INCOME RANGES BETWEEN
     90,000 TO 200,000 RUB MONTHLY

### Рис. 12. О принадлежности человека к среднему классу в России свидетельствуют (%):



#### **INDICATORS**

- BOTH HUSBAND AND WIFE HAVE TO WORK
- MOST CAN TAKE OCCASIONAL VACATIONS
- FOLKS EAT OUT OFTEN
- DRIVE RELATIVELY INEXPENSIVE LATE-MODEL CARS
- MOST HAVE OWNED THEIR OWN HOMES OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF BUYING THEM

LOTS OF POWERLESSNESS AND ANOMIC FEELINGS IN THIS CLASS



### THE WORKING CLASS

- ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF RUSSIANS
  - THE LINE SEPARATING THE LOWER-MIDDLE AND THE WORKING CLASS IS VERY GREY
  - INDICATORS OF WORKING CLASS
    - EARN BETWEEN 30,000 AND 90,000 RUB MONTHLY
      - HOWEVER, SKILLED CRAFTSPERSONS EARN SUBSTANTIALLY MORE
    - LOW-LEVEL CLERICAL, SALES FORCE
      - LOTS OF PINK COLLAR JOB HOLDERS
    - DRIVE USED CARS
    - LIVE IN MODEST NEIGHBORHOODS
    - MUST SACRIFICE TO EAT OUT OR GO ON VACATION

# THE WORKING POOR



- ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF RUSSIANS
  - WORK IS FULL- AND PART-TIME
  - WAGES ARE LOW (10,000 TO 30,000 RUB A MONTH) AND MOST LIVE IN OR NEAR THE POVERTY LINE
  - EXISTENCE IS SALARY TO SALARY
  - MOST HAVE DEAD-END SERVICE JOBS
  - THEY RARELY RECEIVE BENEFITS
  - BOTH HUSBAND AND WIFE WORK
  - JOB SKILLS ARE LOW
  - MINORITIES ARE OVERREPRESENTED IN THIS GROUP
  - MOST LIVE IN UNDESIRABLE
     NEIGHBORHOOD, DRIVE OLD, UNRELIABLE
     CARS IF ANY, AND CANNOT AFFORD ANY
     REAL LUXURIES
  - HAVE DACHAS AS THEIR SUPPORT BASE FOR HOLIDAYS AND FOOD

## THE UNDERCLASS

- ABOUT 16 PERCENT OF RUSSIANS
  - LACK EMPLOYABLE SKILLS
  - INCOME IS BELOW 10,000 RUB A MONTH
  - MOST OF THEIR INCOME COMES THROUGH A FORM OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRA
  - SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES
  - PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
  - RETIRED
  - WOMEN
  - EXPERIENCE MANY SOCIAL PROBLEMS
    - CRIME, MALNUTRITION, VIOLENCE, AND DISEASES
  - ONLY ABOUT HALF OF THOSE BORN INTO THIS CLASS EVER CLIMB OUT
    - PROBLEM IS GETTING MORE DIFFICULT TO OVERCOME THESE DAYS



РОССИЯ БОГАТАЯ СТРАНА

народ только нищий

# **SOCIAL MOBILITY**

- ...IS A CHANGE IN AN INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP'S POSITION WITHIN THE SOCIAL HIERARCHY
  - INTERGENERATIONAL
    - MOVEMENT THAT TAKES PLACE ACROSS GENERATIONS
  - INTRAGENERATIONAL
    - MOVEMENT THAT TAKES PLACE WITHIN A PERSON'S LIFETIME
  - OTHER KINDS OF MOBILITY
    - UPWARD (DIFFICULT, BUT NOT IMPOSSIBLE)
    - DOWNWARD (EASY, AND NOT DESIRED!)
    - HORIZONTAL (WILL EXPERIENCE A LOT OF THIS)
  - OTHER WAYS OF LOOKING AT IT
    - POSITIONAL MOBILITY
      - PEOPLE GET AHEAD DUE TO HARD WORK AND EDUCATION
    - STRUCTURAL MOBILITY
      - THE CONSEQUENCE OF CHANGE IN THE RANGE OF OCCUPATIONS THAT ARE AVAILABLE IN SOCIETY
        - » COMPUTERS AND THE NEW JOB MARKETS

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- WHY HAS SOCIAL MOBILITY STALLED OUT OVER THE PAST TWO DECADES?
  - DEINDUSTRIALIZATION
    - CAPITAL FLIGHT OVERSEAS (JOBS GONE)
  - NEW JOBS ARE FEW
    - HIGHLY TECHNICAL SERVICE JOBS
    - LOW SKILLED SERVICE SECTOR "MC JOBS"
  - CORPORATE DOWNSIZING
    - IN SEARCH OF PROFITS, CORPORATIONS ARE CUTTING PAYROLL AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS



# THE IMPORTANCE OF SOCIAL CLASS TO YOU

- PEOPLE'S LIFE CHANCES ARE IMPACTED BY SOCIAL CLASS
  - THE CHANCE A PERSON WILL EXPERIENCE WHAT IS REFERRED TO AS "THE GOOD LIFE"
  - THINK IN TERMS OF HOW CLASS IMPACTS THE FOLLOW...
    - PHYSICAL HEALTH
    - MENTAL HEALTH
    - SELF-ESTEEM
    - EDUCATION
    - BECOMING A VICTIM OF CRIME
    - CHANCE OF CATCHING AND FIGHTING DISEASES
    - GENERAL MEDICAL CARE
    - ABILITY TO BUY INSURANCE COVERAGES
    - RELIABILITY OF TRANSPORTATION
    - TYPE OF HOUSING AND LOCATION
    - WHO YOU WILL ASSOCIATE WITH, DATE, AND EVEN MARRY
    - THE QUALITY OF NUTRITION YOU ENJOY
    - GENERAL LIFE SATISFACTION
  - WHAT ISN'T IMPACTED BY YOUR SOCIAL CLASS?

### THE POOR

#### LOOKING AT POVERTY

- ABSOLUTE TERMS
  - NOT HAVING ENOUGH TO BUY THE BASIC NECESSITIES OF LIFE
    - TRIPLING WHATEVER CONSTITUTES AN EMERGENCY DIET
      - » SOMEWHERE AROUND \$15,500.00 PER YEAR FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR
- RELATIVE POVERTY
  - FEELING POOR WHEN COMPARING YOURSELF TO GROUP THAT HAS MORE
- HOW MANY POOR ARE THERE?
  - ABOUT 40 MILLION AMERICANS LIVE IN ABSOLUTE POVERTY
    - MOST CHILDREN AND THE ELDERLY ARE ON FIXED INCOMES
    - 26 PERCENT OF ALL AMERICAN CHILDREN GO TO BED HUNGRY EACH NIGHT – A HORRIBLE NATIONAL DISGRACE!

WHAT KIND OF PERSON
AM I GOING TO BE IF
I GO TO BED HUNGRY
FOR MOST OF MY
CHILDHOOD AND
ADOLESCENT LIFE?
ANGRY? FRUSTRATED?
DESPERATE? THINK
ABOUT IT...26 PERCENT
OF KIDS IN AMERICA GO
TO BED HUNGRY EACH
NIGHT!



# WHO ARE THE POOR?

- AGE
  - 26 PERCENT OF KIDS UNDER AGE OF 6
  - 21 PERCENT OF ALL KIDS
  - 40 PERCENT OF ALL POOR ARE KIDS
    - ROUGHLY 16.3 PERCENT OF WHITE KIDS
    - ROUGHLY 40.3 PERCENT OF HISPANIC KIDS
    - ROUGHLY 40 PERCENT OF BLACK KIDS
- RACE
  - ROUGHLY 66 PERCENT OF ALL POOR ARE WHITE
    - BUT A DISPROPORTIONATE NUMBER OF MINORITY GROUPS ARE POOR
      - 28.4 PERCENT OF ALL BLACKS
      - 29.4 PERCENT OF ALL HISPANICS
- FAMILY STATUS
  - SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES AND POVERTY
    - THE FEMINIZATION OF POVERTY HAS BEEN THE TREND DURING THE PAST THREE DECADES
      - 35.6 PERCENT OF FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLDS
      - 50 PERCENT OF BLACK FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLDS
      - 52 PERCENT OF HISPANIC FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLDS
      - 29 PERCENT OF WHITE FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLDS
- THE WORKING POOR
  - FIVE PERCENT OF FULL-TIME WORKERS LIVE IN POVERTY
    - ABOUT HALF OF ALL POOR ADULTS WORK, MANY OF THEM WORK FULLTIME!

## **EXPLAINING POVERTY**

- THERE ARE TWO GENERAL APPROACHES TO EXPLAIN WHY POVERTY EXISTS IN AMERICA
  - BLAME THE POOR PERSON
    - THE PERSON HAS FAILED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNTIES THAT HAVE COME HIS OR HER WAY AND FOR THIS SUFFER FROM POVERTY
      - THEY THEN PASS THIS WAY OF LIFE ON TO THE NEXT GENERATION (PASSING ON A CULTURE OF POVERTY)
        - » PASSING ON WHAT LIFE EXPERIENCES HAVE TAUGHT A PARENT TO A CHILD
  - ANSWER
    - CHANGE THE WAY A PERSON THINKS AND ACTS
  - BLAME THE SYSTEM'S STRUCTURE (SOCIETY)
    - THE STRUCTURE OF SOCIETY IS TO BLAME FOR POVERTY
      - THE LOSS OF GOOD PAYING JOBS
      - CORPORATE DOWNSIZING
      - EXTENDED PERIODS OF ECONOMIC DOWNTURNS
      - FORMS OF PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION
  - ANSWERS
    - INDIVIDUAL HOPE ALONG WITH GOOD ATTITUDES
    - CHANGE THE STRUCTURE OF SOCIETY
    - STOP CAPITAL FLIGHT





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- MOST POOR PEOPLE GET WELFARE
  - NOWHERE NEAR ALL THE PEOPLE WHO WERE CLASSIFIED AS POOR RECEIVED WELFARE **ASSISTANCE**
- MOST WELFARE RECIPIENTS ARE BLACK
  - FEWER THAN HALF OF THOSE RECEIVING AFDC PAYMENTS ARE BLACK
- WELFARE IS AN EXPENSIVE PROGRAM
  - 28 PERCENT OF THE BUDGET IN 1990
- LIFE ON WELFARE IS EASY
  - TRY TO LIVE ON IT FOR A YEAR IF ONE THINKS IT IS EASY IT IS MERELY A SUBSISTENCE WAY OF LIFE, NOT A GLORIFIED EXISTENCE
- WELFARE PROMOTES DEPENDENCY
  - A SIZEABLE MAJORITY OF RECIPIENTS DO NOT STAY ON WELFARE TOO LONG
    - 70 PERCENT LEAVE THE PROGRAM AFTER TWO YEARS AND 85 PERCENT AFTER FOUR YEARS
    - ONE PERCENT OF THE AMERICAN POPULATION (2.6 MILLION PERSONS) ARE LOCKED INTO LONGTERM WELFARE
- WELFARE ENCOURAGES SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES
  - THIS MODERN TENDENCY IS NOT RESTRICTED TO THE POOR, ONE FINDS IT THROUGHOUT THE CLASS SYSTEM
- WELFARE PROMOTES AND ENCOURAGES OUT OF WEDLOCK BIRTHS
  - NO CONNECTION EVER FOUND IN RESEARCH ON THIS SUBJECT
    - WELFARE PAYMENTS PER CHILD ARE FAR FROM LAVISH AND COSTS OF RAISING A CHILD EXCEED WHAT INCREASES ARE RECEIVED
- WHAT ABOUT WEALTHFARE?
  - THE WEALTHIEST 25 PERCENT OF AMERICANS GET 75 PERCENT OF GOV'T FREE MONEY!